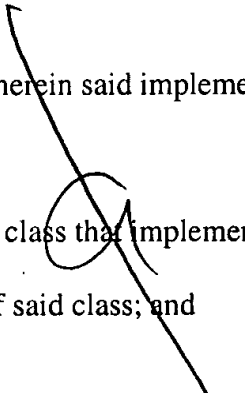


CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method for dynamic implementation of a Java™ Metadata Interface (JMI) to a  
metamodel, the method comprising:  
receiving a JMI implementation request, said request associated with a metamodel,  
said metamodel comprising at least one package, said at least one package  
comprising at least one class, said at least one class comprising at least one  
10 attribute, reference or operation;  
implementing a package proxy JMI interface when said request comprises a package  
proxy request;  
implementing a class proxy JMI interface when said request comprises a class proxy  
request; and  
15 implementing a class instance JMI interface when said request comprises a class  
instance request.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said implementing a package proxy JMI interface  
comprises:  
20 generating bytecode for a class that implements said package proxy JMI interface;  
creating a new instance of said class; and  
returning said instance.
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3. The method of claim 2 wherein said generating further comprises:
- receiving a metamodel package;
  - receiving a package proxy interface method associated with said metamodel package;
  - 5 determining a class name based upon said interface method;
  - searching said metamodel package for a class corresponding to said class name; and
  - producing an implementation of said interface method that returns the proxy for said class when said class name is found in said package.
- 10 4. The method of claim 3 wherein said implementation of said interface method calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said class name as an argument and returning the proxy for said class.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein said implementing a class proxy JMI interface
- 15 comprises:
- generating bytecode for a class that implements said class proxy JMI interface;
  - creating a new instance of said class; and
  - returning said instance.
- 20 6. The method of claim 5 wherein said generating further comprises:
- receiving a metamodel class;
  - receiving a class proxy interface method associated with said metamodel class;
  - producing a first implementation of said interface method that creates a new instance of said class when said method is parameterless; and

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producing a second implementation of said interface method that creates a new instance of said class and sets the attributes passed as arguments to said interface method when said interface method includes at least one parameter.

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7. The method of claim 6 wherein said first implementation calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said class name as an argument and returning a new instance of said class.

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8. The method of claim 6 wherein said second implementation calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said class name, attributes and attribute values as arguments and returning a new instance of said class.

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9. The method of claim 1 wherein said implementing a class instance JMI interface comprises:  
generating bytecode for a class that implements said class instance JMI interface;  
creating a new instance of said class; and  
returning said instance.

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10. The method of claim 9 wherein said generating further comprises:  
receiving a metamodel class;  
receiving a class instance interface method associated with said metamodel class, said interface method having an interface method name;

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producing a first implementation of said interface method that sets the value of an attribute when said interface method name includes a first prefix and when the attribute associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel class;

5 producing a second implementation of said interface method that sets the value of a reference when said interface method name includes a first prefix and when the reference associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel class;

10 producing a third implementation of said interface method that gets the value of an attribute when said interface method name includes a second prefix and when the attribute associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel class;

producing a fourth implementation of said interface method that gets the value of a reference when said interface method name includes a second prefix and when the reference associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel class; and

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producing a fifth implementation of said interface method that executes an operation when said interface method has the same name as said operation.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein

20 said first prefix is "set"; and  
said second prefix is "get".

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12. The method of claim 10 wherein said producing a first implementation further comprises:

receiving an attribute name and an attribute value; and

5 producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said attribute name and attribute value as arguments.

13. The method of claim 10 wherein said producing a second implementation further comprises:

10 receiving a reference name and an reference value; and

producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said reference name and reference value as arguments.

14. The method of claim 10 wherein said producing a third implementation further

15 comprises:

receiving an attribute name;

producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said

class, passing said attribute name as an argument and returning the attribute value

associated with said attribute name; and

20 returning said attribute value.

15. The method of claim 10 wherein said producing a fourth implementation further

comprises:

receiving a reference name;

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producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said reference name as an argument and returning the reference value associated with said reference name; and

5 returning said reference value.

16. The method of claim 10 wherein said producing a fifth implementation further comprises:

receiving an operation name and any associated arguments;

10 producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said operation name and said associated arguments as arguments and returning an operation return value; and  
returning said operation return value.

15 17. A method for dynamic implementation of a Java™ Metadata Interface (JMI), the method comprising:

receiving a JMI implementation request, said request associated with a metamodel,

said metamodel comprising at least one package, said at least one package comprising at least one class, said at least one class comprising at least one

20 attribute, reference or operation;

implementing a JMI interface when said JMI interface is unimplemented; and

executing a stored JMI interface implementation when said JMI interface is implemented.

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18. The method of claim 17 wherein

said implementing further comprises:

- 5        implementing a package proxy JMI interface when said request comprises a  
         package proxy request and when said package proxy JMI interface is  
         unimplemented;
- implementing a class proxy JMI interface when said request comprises a class  
         proxy request and when said class proxy JMI interface is unimplemented; and
- 10       implementing a class instance JMI interface when said request comprises a class  
         instance request and when said class instance JMI interface is  
         unimplemented; and

said executing further comprises:

- executing a stored a package proxy JMI interface implementation when said  
15       request comprises a package proxy request and when said package proxy JMI  
         interface is implemented;
- executing a stored class proxy JMI interface when said request comprises a class  
         proxy request and when said class proxy JMI interface is implemented; and
- executing a stored class instance JMI interface when said request comprises a  
20       class instance request and when said class instance JMI interface is  
         implemented.

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19. The method of claim 18 wherein said implementing a package proxy JMI interface comprises:

generating bytecode for a class that implements said package proxy JMI interface;

5 creating a new instance of said class; and

returning said instance.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein said generating further comprises:

receiving a metamodel package;

10 receiving a package proxy interface method associated with said metamodel package;

determining a class name based upon said interface method;

searching said metamodel package for a class corresponding to said class name; and

producing an implementation of said interface method that returns the proxy for said  
class when said class name is found in said package.

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21. The method of claim 20 wherein said implementation of said interface method calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said class name as an argument and returning the proxy for said class.

20 22. The method of claim 18 wherein said implementing a class proxy JMI interface

comprises:

generating bytecode for a class that implements said class proxy JMI interface;

creating a new instance of said class; and

returning said instance.

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23. The method of claim 22 wherein said generating further comprises:

receiving a metamodel class;

5 receiving a class proxy interface method associated with said metamodel class;

producing a first implementation of said interface method that creates a new instance  
of said class when said method is parameterless; and

producing a second implementation of said interface method that creates a new

instance of said class and sets the attributes passed as arguments to said interface

10 method when said interface method includes at least one parameter.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein said first implementation calls a handler method of  
the superclass of said class, passing said class name as an argument and returning a  
new instance of said class.

15 25. The method of claim 23 wherein said second implementation calls a handler method  
of the superclass of said class, passing said class name, attributes and attribute values  
as arguments and returning a new instance of said class.

20 26. The method of claim 18 wherein said implementing a class instance JMI interface  
comprises:  
generating bytecode for a class that implements said class instance JMI interface;  
creating a new instance of said class; and  
returning said instance.

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27. The method of claim 26 wherein said generating further comprises:

receiving a metamodel class;

receiving a class instance interface method associated with said metamodel class, said

5 interface method having an interface method name;

producing a first implementation of said interface method that sets the value of an

attribute when said interface method name includes a first prefix and when the

attribute associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel class;

producing a second implementation of said interface method that sets the value of a

10 reference when said interface method name includes a first prefix and when the

reference associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel

class;

producing a third implementation of said interface method that gets the value of an

attribute when said interface method name includes a second prefix and when the

15 attribute associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel class;

producing a fourth implementation of said interface method that gets the value of a

reference when said interface method name includes a second prefix and when

the reference associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel

class; and

20 producing a fifth implementation of said interface method that executes an operation

when said interface method has the same name as said operation.

28. The method of claim 27 wherein

said first prefix is "set"; and

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said second prefix is "get".

29. The method of claim 27 wherein said producing a first implementation further

5 comprises:

receiving an attribute name and an attribute value; and

producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said

class, passing said attribute name and attribute value as arguments.

10 30. The method of claim 27 wherein said producing a second implementation further

comprises:

receiving a reference name and an reference value; and

producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said

class, passing said reference name and reference value as arguments.

15

31. The method of claim 27 wherein said producing a third implementation further

comprises:

receiving an attribute name;

producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said

20 class, passing said attribute name as an argument and returning the attribute value

associated with said attribute name; and

returning said attribute value.

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32. The method of claim 27 wherein said producing a fourth implementation further comprises:

receiving a reference name;

5 producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said reference name as an argument and returning the reference value associated with said reference name; and  
returning said reference value.

10 33. The method of claim 27 wherein said producing a fifth implementation further comprises:

receiving an operation name and any associated arguments;

producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said operation name and said associated arguments as arguments  
15 and returning an operation return value; and  
returning said operation return value.

34. A program storage device readable by a machine, embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method to dynamically  
20 implement a Java™ Metadata Interface (JMI) to a metamodel, the method comprising:  
receiving a JMI implementation request, said request associated with a metamodel,  
said metamodel comprising at least one package, said at least one package comprising at least one class, said at least one class comprising at least one attribute, reference or operation;

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implementing a package proxy JMI interface when said request comprises a package proxy request;

implementing a class proxy JMI interface when said request comprises a class proxy request; and

implementing a class instance JMI interface when said request comprises a class instance request.

35. The program storage device of claim 34 wherein said implementing a package proxy JMI interface comprises:

generating bytecode for a class that implements said package proxy JMI interface;  
creating a new instance of said class; and  
returning said instance.

36. The program storage device of claim 35 wherein said generating further comprises:

receiving a metamodel package;  
receiving a package proxy interface method associated with said metamodel package;  
determining a class name based upon said interface method;  
searching said metamodel package for a class corresponding to said class name; and  
producing an implementation of said interface method that returns the proxy for said class when said class name is found in said package.

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37. The program storage device of claim 36 wherein said implementation of said interface method calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said class name as an argument and returning the proxy for said class.

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38. The program storage device of claim 34 wherein said implementing a class proxy JMI interface comprises:  
generating bytecode for a class that implements said class proxy JMI interface;  
creating a new instance of said class; and  
returning said instance.

10

39. The program storage device of claim 38 wherein said generating further comprises:  
receiving a metamodel class;  
receiving a class proxy interface method associated with said metamodel class;  
producing a first implementation of said interface method that creates a new instance of said class when said method is parameterless; and  
producing a second implementation of said interface method that creates a new instance of said class and sets the attributes passed as arguments to said interface method when said interface method includes at least one parameter.

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40. The program storage device of claim 39 wherein said first implementation calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said class name as an argument and returning a new instance of said class.

41. The program storage device of claim 39 wherein said second implementation calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said class name, attributes and attribute values as arguments and returning a new instance of said class.

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42. The program storage device of claim 34 wherein said implementing a class instance JMI interface comprises:  
generating bytecode for a class that implements said class instance JMI interface;  
creating a new instance of said class; and  
returning said instance.

10

43. The program storage device of claim 42 wherein said generating further comprises:  
receiving a metamodel class;  
receiving a class instance interface method associated with said metamodel class, said  
interface method having an interface method name;  
producing a first implementation of said interface method that sets the value of an  
attribute when said interface method name includes a first prefix and when the  
attribute associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel class;  
producing a second implementation of said interface method that sets the value of a  
reference when said interface method name includes a first prefix and when the  
reference associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel  
class;

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producing a third implementation of said interface method that gets the value of an attribute when said interface method name includes a second prefix and when the attribute associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel class;

5 producing a fourth implementation of said interface method that gets the value of a reference when said interface method name includes a second prefix and when the reference associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel class; and

10 producing a fifth implementation of said interface method that executes an operation when said interface method has the same name as said operation.

44. The program storage device of claim 43 wherein

said first prefix is "set"; and  
said second prefix is "get".

15 45. The program storage device of claim 43 wherein said producing a first implementation further comprises:

receiving an attribute name and an attribute value; and  
producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said  
20 class, passing said attribute name and attribute value as arguments.

46. The program storage device of claim 43 wherein said producing a second implementation further comprises:  
receiving a reference name and an reference value; and

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producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said reference name and reference value as arguments.

- 5 47. The program storage device of claim 43 wherein said producing a third implementation further comprises:
- receiving an attribute name;
- producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said attribute name as an argument and returning the attribute value
- 10 associated with said attribute name; and
- returning said attribute value.

48. The program storage device of claim 43 wherein said producing a fourth implementation further comprises:
- 15 receiving a reference name;
- producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said reference name as an argument and returning the reference value associated with said reference name; and
- returning said reference value.

- 20 49. The program storage device of claim 43 wherein said producing a fifth implementation further comprises:
- receiving an operation name and any associated arguments;

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producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said operation name and said associated arguments as arguments and returning an operation return value; and  
5 returning said operation return value.

50. A program storage device readable by a machine, embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method to dynamically implement a Java™ Metadata Interface (JMI) to a metamodel, the method comprising:  
10 receiving a JMI implementation request, said request associated with a metamodel, said metamodel comprising at least one package, said at least one package comprising at least one class, said at least one class comprising at least one attribute, reference or operation;  
implementing a JMI interface when said JMI interface is unimplemented; and  
15 executing a stored JMI interface implementation when said JMI interface is implemented.

51. The program storage device of claim 50 wherein

said implementing further comprises:

20 implementing a package proxy JMI interface when said request comprises a package proxy request and when said package proxy JMI interface is unimplemented;

implementing a class proxy JMI interface when said request comprises a class proxy request and when said class proxy JMI interface is unimplemented; and

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implementing a class instance JMI interface when said request comprises a class instance request and when said class instance JMI interface is unimplemented; and

5 said executing further comprises:

executing a stored a package proxy JMI interface implementation when said request comprises a package proxy request and when said package proxy JMI interface is implemented;

10 executing a stored class proxy JMI interface when said request comprises a class proxy request and when said class proxy JMI interface is implemented; and

executing a stored class instance JMI interface when said request comprises a class instance request and when said class instance JMI interface is implemented.

15 52. The program storage device of claim 51 wherein said implementing a package proxy JMI interface comprises:

generating bytecode for a class that implements said package proxy JMI interface;

creating a new instance of said class; and

returning said instance.

20

53. The program storage device of claim 52 wherein said generating further comprises:

receiving a metamodel package;

receiving a package proxy interface method associated with said metamodel package;

determining a class name based upon said interface method;

searching said metamodel package for a class corresponding to said class name; and  
producing an implementation of said interface method that returns the proxy for said  
class when said class name is found in said package.

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54. The program storage device of claim 53 wherein said implementation of said  
interface method calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said  
class name as an argument and returning the proxy for said class.

10 55. The program storage device of claim 51 wherein said implementing a class proxy JMI  
interface comprises:  
generating bytecode for a class that implements said class proxy JMI interface;  
creating a new instance of said class; and  
returning said instance.

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56. The program storage device of claim 55 wherein said generating further comprises:  
receiving a metamodel class;  
receiving a class proxy interface method associated with said metamodel class;  
producing a first implementation of said interface method that creates a new instance  
20 of said class when said method is parameterless; and  
producing a second implementation of said interface method that creates a new  
instance of said class and sets the attributes passed as arguments to said interface  
method when said interface method includes at least one parameter.

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57. The program storage device of claim 56 wherein said first implementation calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said class name as an argument and returning a new instance of said class.

58. The program storage device of claim 56 wherein said second implementation calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said class name, attributes and attribute values as arguments and returning a new instance of said class.

59. The program storage device of claim 51 wherein said implementing a class instance JMI interface comprises:  
generating bytecode for a class that implements said class instance JMI interface;  
creating a new instance of said class; and  
returning said instance.

60. The program storage device of claim 59 wherein said generating further comprises:  
receiving a metamodel class;  
receiving a class instance interface method associated with said metamodel class, said interface method having an interface method name;  
producing a first implementation of said interface method that sets the value of an attribute when said interface method name includes a first prefix and when the attribute associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel class;  
producing a second implementation of said interface method that sets the value of a reference when said interface method name includes a first prefix and when the

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reference associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel class;

producing a third implementation of said interface method that gets the value of an attribute when said interface method name includes a second prefix and when the attribute associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel class;

producing a fourth implementation of said interface method that gets the value of a reference when said interface method name includes a second prefix and when the reference associated with said interface method is found in said metamodel class; and

producing a fifth implementation of said interface method that executes an operation when said interface method has the same name as said operation.

61. The program storage device of claim 60 wherein

said first prefix is "set"; and  
said second prefix is "get".

62. The program storage device of claim 60 wherein said producing a first

implementation further comprises:

receiving an attribute name and an attribute value; and

producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said attribute name and attribute value as arguments.

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63. The program storage device of claim 60 wherein said producing a second  
implementation further comprises:

receiving a reference name and an reference value; and

5 producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said  
class, passing said reference name and reference value as arguments.

64. The program storage device of claim 60 wherein said producing a third  
implementation further comprises:

10 receiving an attribute name;

producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said

class, passing said attribute name as an argument and returning the attribute value

associated with said attribute name; and

returning said attribute value.

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65. The program storage device of claim 60 wherein said producing a fourth  
implementation further comprises:

receiving a reference name;

producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said

20 class, passing said reference name as an argument and returning the reference

value associated with said reference name; and

returning said reference value.

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66. The program storage device of claim 60 wherein said producing a fifth implementation further comprises:
- receiving an operation name and any associated arguments;
- 5 producing an implementation that calls a handler method of the superclass of said class, passing said operation name and said associated arguments as arguments and returning an operation return value; and
- returning said operation return value.

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